Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

Crop Report

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Crop Report for July 29, 2007

Pre-harvest crop production estimates indicate that Saskatchewan farmers are expected to harvest 23.9 million tonnes of grains, oilseeds, and specialty crops, according to the crop reporters who provide the information for Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's weekly crop report. This is close to the ten-year average production. Yield projections will continue to be monitored throughout the harvest period and new estimates will be provided if production estimates change significantly. Statistics Canada's July production estimate will be released on August 23, 2007.

Crop reporters had expected better yields earlier in the season, but the recent heat and lack of precipitation have impacted expectations. There is yield variability both at the local and regional levels. Many crop reporters indicate that they will have a better read on yields once combines are in the field.

Harvest operations are just getting underway, with less than one per cent of the 2007 crop combined and two per cent lying in swath or ready to straight combine. Crops being combined include winter wheat, oats, barley, fall rye, canola, mustard, lentils, and peas.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop, hay, and pasture land continue to deteriorate. Less than 40 per cent of the reporters rate topsoil moisture as adequate. Southern areas report highest percentage of very short topsoil moisture ratings.

The hot, dry weather has allowed for continued haying progress in many areas. Eighty-three per cent of the first-cut and less than one per cent of the second-cut hay crop has been baled or put into silage. Over half of reporters do not expect to harvest a second cut.

Heat and drought stress caused the most crop damage during the past week. Other sources of damage include hail, wind, insects, disease, and gophers.

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1 Year Ago

Pre-harvest estimates indicated a production of 24.5 million tonnes of grains, oilseeds, and specialty crops. Recent heat and lack of precipitation lowered yield expectations.

One per cent of the 2006 crop was combined, and a further two per cent was lying in the swath or ready to straight combine.

Ninety-two per cent of the first-cut and three per cent of the second cut hay had been baled or put into silage.

Fewer than 20 per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture as adequate.

SCIC Crop Report – August 2007

The deadline to select winterkill coverage for fall rye and winter wheat is August 25. For more information on Saskatchewan Crop Insurance's fall-seeded crop program, visit www.saskcropinsurance.com or contact your local customer service office at 1-888-935-0000.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada | Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

CANADA ~ SASKATCHEWAN Crop Insurance

South eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 1, 2, & 3ase)

The south eastern region was hot and muggy last week. An average of 3 mm of precipitation was reported, with the highest average, 6 mm, reported in Crop District (CD) 2b. The maximum for the region was 13 mm reported in the Wilcox area. Heat and drought stress were reported across the region. There was some hail damage northwest of Indian Head on the 28th.

Less than one-half of one per cent of the south eastern 2007 crop has been combined, with 1% lying in the swath or ready to be straight combined. Crops being combined include winter wheat, barley, fall rye, lentils, and field peas. Oats were cut for greenfeed in the Odessa area, and some barley was made into silage in the Ceylon area.

Crop yield estimates indicate that the southeast could see the highest average chickpea yield and the lowest average triticale yield in the province. The fire hazard is becoming very high and precautions will need to occur during harvest operations.

Reporters indicated that crops were maturing and turning under heat stress. Yields have deteriorated in the last three weeks. Some farmers are expecting low bushel weights and shriveled crops.

Topsoil moisture conditions deteriorated this past week. Sixty-seven per cent of crop land is rated as having short or very short topsoil moisture compared with 47% last week. Seventy-six per cent of the hay and pasture land is rated as having short or very short topsoil moisture conditions, compared to 54% last week.

Disease damage came from stag head in canola (Lampman area), rust (Kennedy area), ascochyta blight (Tantallon area), anthracnose (Marquis area), and glume blotch (Moosomin area). Insect damage came from wheat midge (Kennedy, Moosomin), diamondback moth larvae (Lampman, Moosomin, Montmartre) bertha army worms (Moosomin, Fillmore) aphids (Lampman, Broadview, Fillmore, Marquis), and sawflies (Kennedy). Some insecticide spraying was done, primarily for diamondback moth larvae. Some lodging was reported in the Moosomin area.

First-cut haying operations continue in the southeast with 75% baled or silaged, and 17% lying in the swath. Quality is generally expected to be good. Many reporters do not expect a second cut in their area. Those that are cutting a second time report that 7% of the second cut has been cut.

Pastures are in poor shape. Wheat was being desiccated in the Grenfell area, and peas desiccated in the Ceylon area.

South western Saskatchewan (CDs 3asw, 3an, 3b, & 4)

The past week was hot and dry in the southwest. An average of 2 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with the highest average, 6 mm, reported in CD 3asw. The maximum for the region was 14 mm reported in the Rockglen area. Heat and drought stress were reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CDs 3asw, 3b, and 4a. Hail damage was reported in the Rockglen, Lucky Lake, Tyner, and Eastend areas. A swath of hail three to five miles wide went from Alberta to near Elrose and Kyle. Damage to crops and buildings is substantial along its path. The west side of RM 226 saw a weekend storm which dumped between 38 and 100 inches of rain with some crops totaled off.

Two per cent of the 2007 south western crop has been combined, and a further 7% is lying in the swath or ready to be straight combined. Crops being combined include winter wheat, spring wheat, oats, barley, fall rye, canola, mustard, lentils, and peas. Farmers are advised to keep water nearby to fight combine fires.

Reporters indicate that crops are suffering from heat stress and that yield potential has been reduced, substantially in some cases. South western triticale is expected to show the highest provincial yield, while spring wheat, durum, oats, barley, fall rye, flax, canola, mustard, and field peas are expected to have the lowest provincial averages.

2007-04529/

Topsoil moisture conditions continued to deteriorate this past week, with 93% of the crop land rated as having topsoil moisture as short or very short, compared with 54% last week. On hay and pasture land, 96% of the land is rated with short or very short topsoil moisture conditions, compared to 89% last week.

Insect damage came from grasshoppers (Pipe Lake, Lisieux, Rockglen, Lucky Lake, Maple Creek). Gophers caused crop damage in many areas in CDs 3sw, 3bs, 3bn, and 4a.

Haying operations are continuing in the southwest with 96% of the first-cut hay either baled or put into silage, and a further 3% lying in the swath. Quality is expected to be good. Many do not expect a second cut because of the hot, dry conditions.

Pastures are drying up. Lentils were being desiccated in the Swift Current area. Dugouts are getting very low in the Maple Creek area.

East central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 5 & 6a)

The east central region was generally hot and humid during the past week. An average of 6 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with CD 5 reporting the highest average at 9 mm. The maximum for the region was 35 mm reported in the Lebret area. Heat and drought stress as well as some wind damage were reported across the region. Hail damage was reported in the Jedburgh, Veregin, Abernethy, and Balcarres areas. Lodging of crops from the storms was reported in the Jedburgh and Veregin areas.

Some combining of fall crops has started in the east central region. Yield estimates of lentils and field peas are the highest regional averages in the province.

The extreme heat is affecting crops, and some reporters feel that the heat damage is more severe than last year. The reserve moisture has held crops up reasonably well, but that is getting used up. Heads are not filling in cereal crops, and bushel weights could be light. If the heat continues, some farmers will face a tough decision as to whether to invest money for insecticide spraying.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland deteriorated, with 45% of the crop land rated as having short or very short topsoil moisture, compared with 31% last week. Conditions also deteriorated on hay and pasture land with 48% of the land rated as having short or very short topsoil moisture conditions, compared to 31% last week.

Insect damage came from bertha armyworms (Foam Lake, Quill Lake, Jansen, Bradwell) aphids (Quill Lake, Kelvington, Leroy), wheat midge (Neudorf, Ituna, Quill Lake, Kelvington, Jansen, Leroy), and diamondback moth larvae (Stockholm, Insinger, Foam Lake, Lumsden, Craik, Jansen, Young, Humboldt). Some insecticide spraying was done last week. Disease pressures came from rust (Insinger, Leroy), net blotch (Holdfast), and tan spot (Leroy). The Insinger area also reported aster yellows in the canola. Gophers are still abundant in the Bethune area.

First-cut haying operations are progressing, with 76% baled or silaged, and a further 16% lying in the swath. Quality is expected to be generally good. Many reporters do not expect to see a second cut in their areas.

Peas were being desiccated in the Neudorf and Abernethy areas.

West central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 6b & 7)

The west central region was also hot and humid this past week. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with CD 7a reporting the highest average at 3 mm. The maximum for the region was 15 mm reported in the Marengo area. Heat and drought stress were reported across the region, with some localized wind damage. Hail damage was reported in the Eston and Marengo areas. The hail storms did a lot of damage, including blowing away grain bins, damaging houses, moving bales, breaking trees, and flattening crops.

One-half of one per cent of the west central 2007 crop has been swathed or is ready to be straight combined. While most of the activity is in the fall crops, some canola,

mustard, lentils, and peas are also ready to harvest. Yield estimates of mustard are the highest regional yield in the province, while estimated yields of winter wheat, fall rye, and canary seed are the lowest in the province.

Reporters say that crops are advancing rapidly in the heat and that yields are dropping.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland continued to deteriorate, with 19% of the crop land rated as having adequate topsoil moisture, compared with 46% last week. Conditions also deteriorated on hay and pasture land with 18% of the land rated as having adequate topsoil moisture, compared to 48% last week.

Insect damage came from wheat midge (Strongfield, Hanley, Kerrobert), diamondback moth larvae (Strongfield, Conquest, Herschel, Denzil), bertha armyworms (Hanley, Biggar, Tramping Lake, Cando), and sawflies (Battleford). Insecticide spraying is underway.

Cutting and baling the 2007 hay crop is nearing completion with 91% baled or silaged, and a further 6% lying in the swath. Quality is generally expected to be good. A number of reporters do not expect to harvest a second cut. Two per cent of the second cut has been baled or put into silage.

Pulse crops are being desiccated in the Strongfield, Grandora, Hanley, and Denzil areas. Pastures are turning brown in the Biggar area.

North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9ae)

The north eastern region had a hot, dry week. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with the highest average of 2 mm reported in CD 8b. The maximum for the region was 8 mm reported in the Humboldt area. Heat stress was reported in several areas across the region. Drought damage was reported in the Middle Lake and Alvena areas. Some crops lodged in the Humboldt area.

No harvest operations have started in the northeast. Current yield estimates indicate that north eastern yields are the highest in the province for winter wheat, fall rye, and canary seed, and lowest yields in the province for lentils and chickpeas.

Reporters indicate that crops are starting to burn and mature at a faster pace than expected.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland deteriorated this past week, with 18% of the land rated as having short topsoil moisture, compared with 1% last week. Conditions also deteriorated on hay and pasture land with 13% of the land rated as having short topsoil moisture, compared to 0% last week.

Insect damage came from bertha armyworms (Tisdale), diamondback moth larvae (Tisdale), aphids (Lake Lenore, Paddockwood), and wheat midge (Codette, Humboldt, Paddockwood). Some insecticide was applied.

Haying operations are progressing and 85% of the 2007 crop is baled or silaged, with a further 11% lying in the swath. Quality is generally expected to be good. Many reporters do not expect a second cut in their area. Eight per cent of the second cut has been cut.

North western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 9aw & 9b)

The north western region had a hot, dry week. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with the highest average of 2 mm reported in CD 9b. The maximum for the region was 13 mm reported in the Glaslyn area. Wind, heat and drought stress were reported across the region.

Harvesting is just getting underway in the northwest with some fall rye being swathed. Current yield estimates indicate that north eastern yields are the highest in the province for spring wheat, durum, oats, barley, flax, and canola.

The continuous heat is damaging the crops as blossoms are falling and crops are turning colour.

Topsoil moisture conditions deteriorated this past week. Sixty per cent of the crop land and 62% of the hay and pasture land are rated as having short or very short topsoil moisture conditions, compared with 29% and 32%, respectively, last week.

Insect damage came from grasshoppers (Debden, Dorintosh, Pierceland), aphids (Debden), and wheat midge (Speers). Leaf disease was reported in the Shellbrook area and sclerotinia in the Dorintosh area. Gophers continued to cause crop damage in the North Battleford area.

Haying operations are progressing with 73% of the crop baled or silaged, and a further 16% lying in the swath. Quality is expected to be good. Eight per cent has been cut on the second hay crop. Many reporters do not expect to see a second cut in their area.

Saskatchewan Crop Production Estimate
July 29, 2007

	2007			1997-2006 average		
	acres* '000	bu/ac	prod'n '000 t	acres '000	bu/ac	prod'n '000 t
winter wheat	420	39.8	455.0	147.5	36.2	147.5
spring wheat	7 275	29.8	5 900.0	9 900.0	29.9	8 073.6
durum	3 990	26.7	2 900.0	4 581.0	29.7	3 696.6
oats	2 020	65.0	2 025.0	1 543.5	58.4	1 391.9
barley	3 950	49.7	4 275.0	4 128.0	48.0	4 334.5
fall rye	100	31.5	80.0	146.0	31.7	121.0
triticale	30	26.6	20.0	27.5	36.4	24.9
flax	1 020	19.9	515.0	1 262.0	18.1	588.5
canola	7 080	26.2	4 200.0	5 729.0	23.8	3 142.9
field peas	2 870	31.4	2 450.0	2 177.0	29.3	1 730.6
subtotal	**28 755**		**22 820**	**29 641.5**		**23 252.0**
		lb/ac			**lb/ac**	
mustard	340	908	140.0	500.5	757	173.1
lentils	1 265	1 046	600.0	1 368.0	1 070	674.7
canary seed	390	1 074	190.0	419.5	876	165.3
chick peas	350	945	150.0	319.6	1 117	153.9
Total	**31 100**		**23 900.0**	**32 249.1**		**24 419.0**

* estimated harvested area

Weekly Rainfall Summary
(in millimeters)

for the week ending July 28, 2007

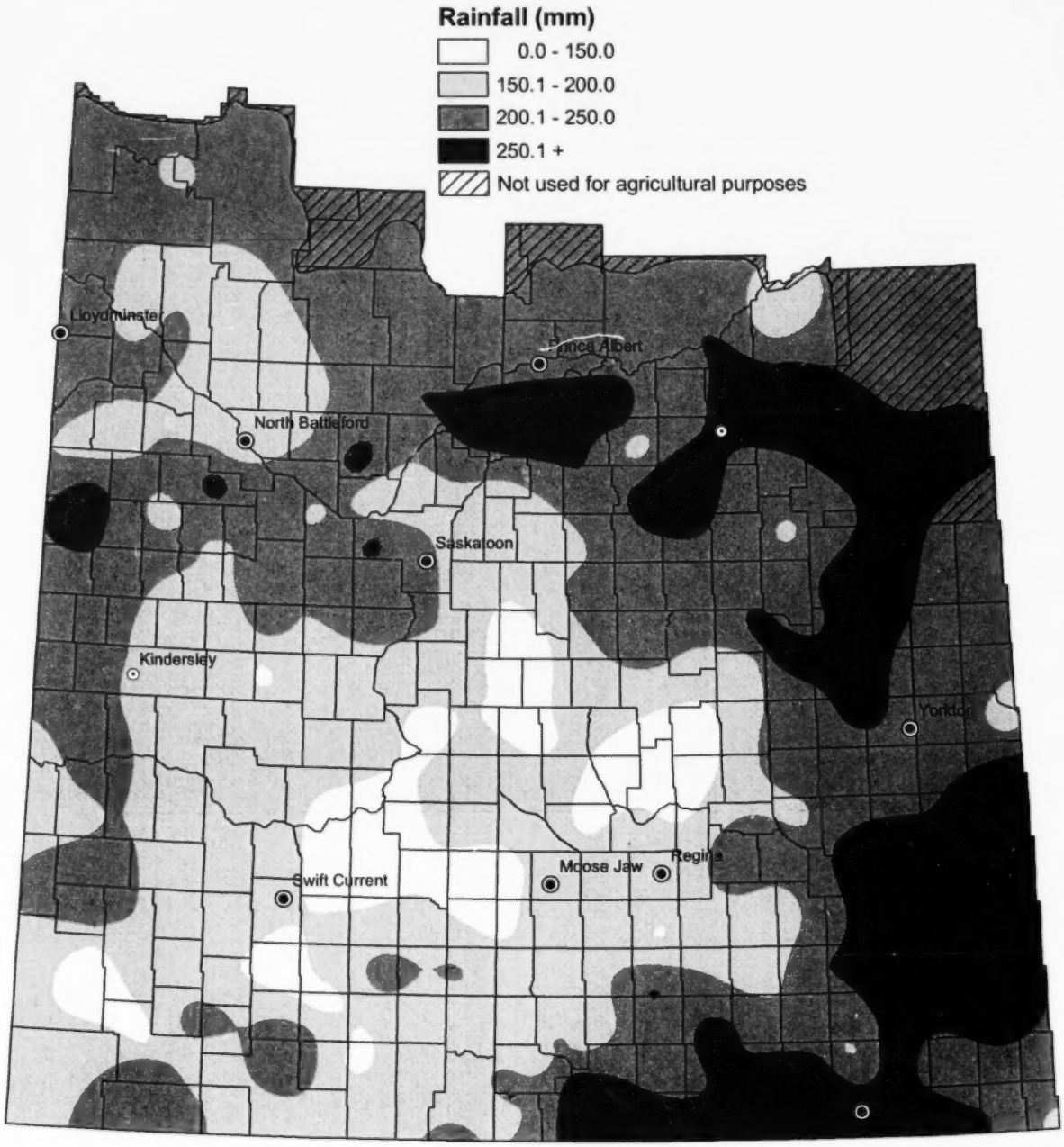
Crop Dist.	No.	Municipality Name	Past Week	Since April 1
1A	2	Mount Pleasant	NIL	256*
	3	Enniskillen	TR	265
	33 A	Moose Creek	NIL	220
	33 B	Moose Creek	3	220
	34	Browning	5	277
	35	Benson	1	197
	63 A	Moose Mountain	4	306
	64	Brock	7	270
	65	Tecumseh	NIL	219
1B	93	Wawken	3	289
	94	Hazelwood	3	336
	95	Golden West	4	278
	121	Moosomin	2	302
	122	Martin	2	328
	123	Silverwood	4	294
	124	Kingsley	5	377
	125	Chester	NIL	238
	151 A	Rocanville	9	375*
	151 B	Rocanville	4	318
	153	Willowdale	5	300
	155	Wolseley	4	274
2A	36	Cymri	3	307
	66	Griffin	3	214
	67	Weyburn	NIL	246
	68	Brokenshell	1	269
	96	Fillmore	2	246
	97	Wellington	3	174
2B	126	Montmartre	3	192
	127	Francis	9	185
	129	Bratt's Lake	14	152
	131	Baildon	2	193
	156 B	Indian Head	8	233
	158	Edenwold	3	178
	160	Pense	NIL	174
	161	Moose Jaw	1	183
	191	Marquis	8	169
3ASE	38 B	Laurier	2	249
	39 B	The Gap	NIL	245
3ASW	10	Happy Valley	13	303
	12	Poplar Valley	1	205
	42	Willow Bunch	5	217
	43 A	Old Post	14	203
	43 B	Old Post	6	172
	44	Waverley	4	177
	71 A	Excel	6	252
	71 C	Excel	NIL	195
	73 A	Stonehenge	NIL	149
	73 B	Stonehenge	NIL	180
3AN	101 B	Terrell	2	182
	102	Lake Johnston	2	166
	103	Sutton	NIL	204*
	132	Hillsborough	1	136
	134	Shamrock	NIL	178
	193	Eyebrow	NIL	184
	194	Enfield	NIL	147
3BS	17 A	Val Marie	2	245
	17 B	Val Marie	2	169
	45	Mankota	NIL	146
	46	Glen Mcpherson	5	209
	75 A	Pinto Creek	NIL	152
	76 A	Auvergne	NIL	130
	76 B	Auvergne	NIL	166
	78 A	Grassy Creek	6	221
	78 B	Grassy Creek	NIL	181
	78 C	Grassy Creek	1	232
	105	Glenbain	TR	210
	106	Whiska Creek	NIL	169
	107	Lac Pelletier	NIL	129
3BN	136	Coulee	NIL	155
	138	Webb	NIL	171
	165	Morse	NIL	73
	166	Excelsior	NIL	105
	167	Sask. Landing	NIL	171
	225	Canaan	TR	112
	226	Victory	1	168
	228 B	Lacadena	12	178
4A	19	Frontier	2	209
	49 B	White Valley	NIL	224
	51	Reno	3	170
	79	Arlington	5	214
	109 A	Carmichael	NIL	169
	110	Piapot	NIL	155
	111 A	Maple Creek	NIL	138
	111 B	Maple Creek	NIL	155
4B	139	Gull Lake	NIL	162
	141	Big Stick	3	198
	142	Enterprise	NIL	235
	169	Pittville	2	178
	230	Clinworth	2	130*
	231	Happyland	3	210
	232	Deer Forks	NIL	154
5A	183	Fertile Belt	5	262
	185	Mcleod	4	255
	186	Abernethy	19	199
	187	North Qu'appelle	35	196
	211	Churchbridge	6	279
	213	Saltcoats	3	234
	216 A	Tullymet	7	245
	216 B	Tullymet	NIL	207
	241	Calder	11	185
	243	Wallace	6	175*
	245 A	Garry	15	258
	245 B	Garry	6	205
	246	Ituna Bon Accord	10	221
	247	Kellross	11	203
	248	Touchwood	NIL	124
5B	271	Cote	23	221
	273	Sliding Hills	28	203
	275 A	Insinger	15	256
	276	Foam Lake	8	277
	277	Emerald	NIL	194
	304	Buchanan	12	265
	307	Elfros	4	264
	308	Big Quill	NIL	210
	335	Hazel Dell	15	263
	336	Sasman	TR	231
	337	Lakeview	13	241
	338	Lakeside	2	233
	366 B	Kelvington	2	195
6A	189	Lumsden	2	198
	190 A	Dufferin	2	127
	190 B	Dufferin	NIL	142
	190 C	Dufferin	2	172
	219 B	Longlaketon	1	132
	220	Mckillop	NIL	133
	221	Sarnia	1	171
	222	Craik	TR	172
	251	Big Arm	NIL	158
	252	Arm River	TR	135
	279 B	Mount Hope	NIL	165
	282	Mccraney	NIL	149
	309	Prairie Rose	NIL	232
	312	Morris	NIL	132
	313	Lost River	NIL	143
	339 B	Leroy	2	210
	340 A	Wolverine	NIL	218
	340 B	Wolverine	NIL	208
	343	Blucher	NIL	170
6B	254	Loreburn	1	144
	283	Rosedale	NIL	175
	284	Rudy	NIL	174
	285	Fertile Valley	NIL	189
	286	Milden	7	171
	314	Dundurn	NIL	191
	344	Corman Park	NIL	249
	345	Vanscoy	NIL	239
	346	Perdue	NIL	226
	376 A	Eagle Creek	NIL	221
	376 B	Eagle Creek	TR	192
	404	Laird	NIL	187
7A	259	Snipe Lake	5	179
	287	St. Andrews	NIL	149
	288	Pleasant Valley	NIL	169
	292	Milton	15	205
	317 A	Marriott	NIL	222
	317 B	Marriott	NIL	205
	318 A	Mountain View	3	160
	318 B	Mountain View	NIL	207
7B	347 A	Biggar	NIL	216
	347 B	Biggar	NIL	230
	350 A	Mariposa	2	230
	350 B	Mariposa	TR	186
	351	Progress	TR	242
	352	Heart's Hill	NIL	213
	377	Glenside	4	221
	378 A	Rosemount	NIL	214
	378 B	Rosemount	NIL	202
	379	Reford	TR	196
	380	Tramping Lake	NIL	186
	381	Grass Lake	1	259
	382	Eye Hill	NIL	305
	409	Buffalo	5	264
	410	Round Valley	NIL	210
8A	428	Star City	NIL	248
	456	Arborfield	TR	278
	457	Connaught	NIL	273
	458	Willow Creek	NIL	235
	486	Moose Range	NIL	177
	487	Nipawin	NIL	260
8B	369	St. Peter	5	257
	370	Humboldt	8	218
	371	Bayne	3	178
	399	Lake Lenore	TR	251
	400	Three Lakes	NIL	246
	402	Fish Creek	NIL	179
	429 B	Flett's Springs	NIL	258
	459	Kinistino	NIL	261
9AE	488	Torch River	NIL	248
	520	Paddockwood	NIL	206
9AW	405	Great Bend	1	157
	406	Mayfield	NIL	211
	435	Redberry	2	259
	436	Douglas	NIL	210
	463	Duck Lake	NIL	271
	464	Leask	NIL	250
	466	Meeting Lake	NIL	194
	467	Round Hill	NIL	176
	493	Shellbrook	NIL	216
	494	Canwood	1	219
	496	Spiritwood	NIL	225
9B	440	Hillsdale	NIL	174
	442	Manitou Lake	NIL	210
	468	Meota	NIL	165
	498 A	Parkdale	NIL	183
	498 B	Parkdale	13	164
	499	Mervin	NIL	216
	501 A	Frenchman Butte	TR	186
	501 B	Frenchman Butte	NIL	187
	501 C	Frenchman Butte	2	228*
	502	Britannia	2	215
	561	Loon Lake	NIL	212
	588 A	Meadow Lake	NIL	234
	588 B	Meadow Lake	NIL	194
	588 C	Meadow Lake	2	207*
	588 D	Meadow Lake	10	218
	622	Beaver River	2	218

These precipitation amounts represent point locations within each municipality and do not necessarily reflect the whole R.M.

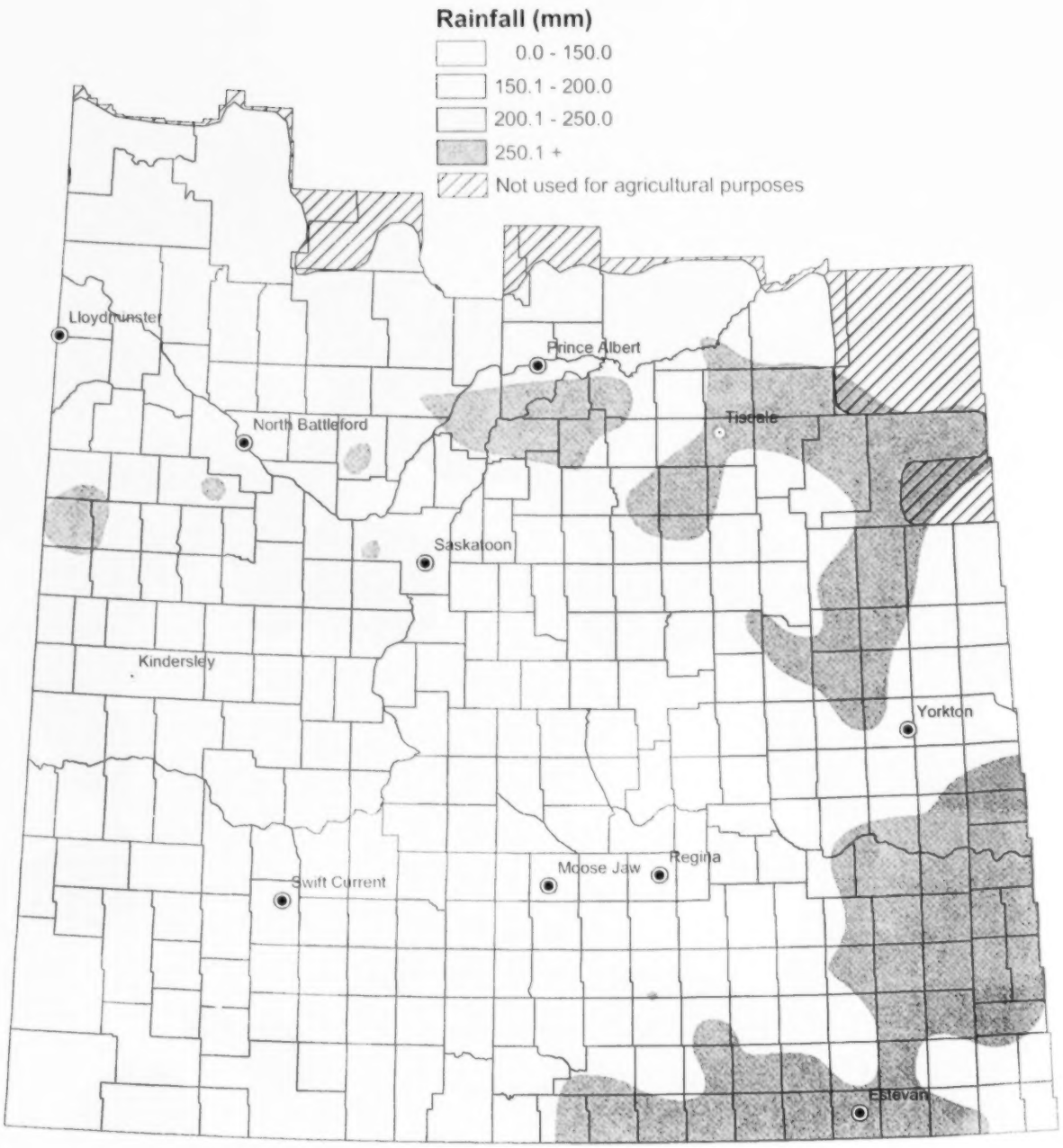
* incomplete

Municipality No: A, B, C, and D - more than one reporter

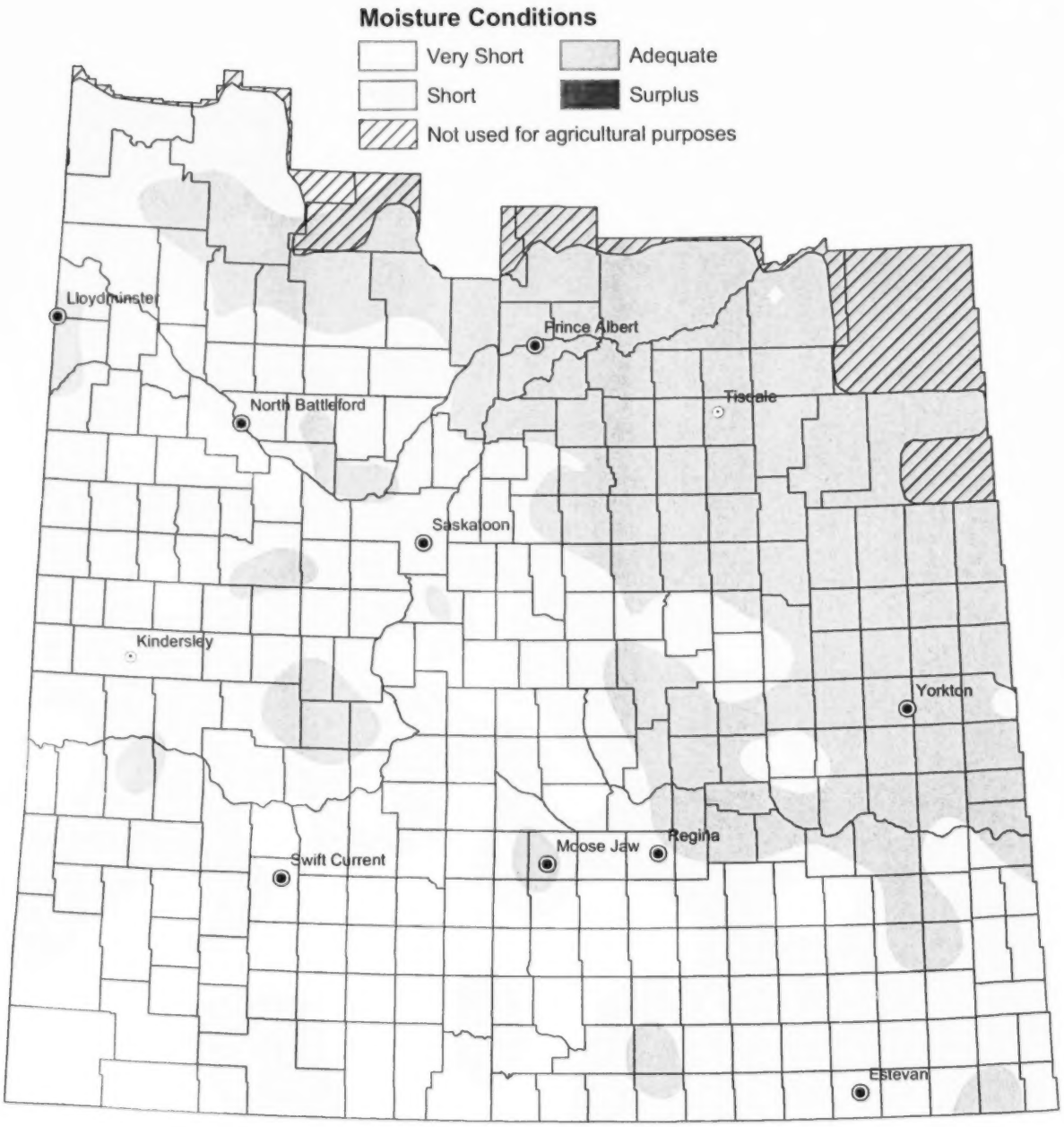
Cumulative Rainfall
From: April 1, 2007
To: July 28, 2007



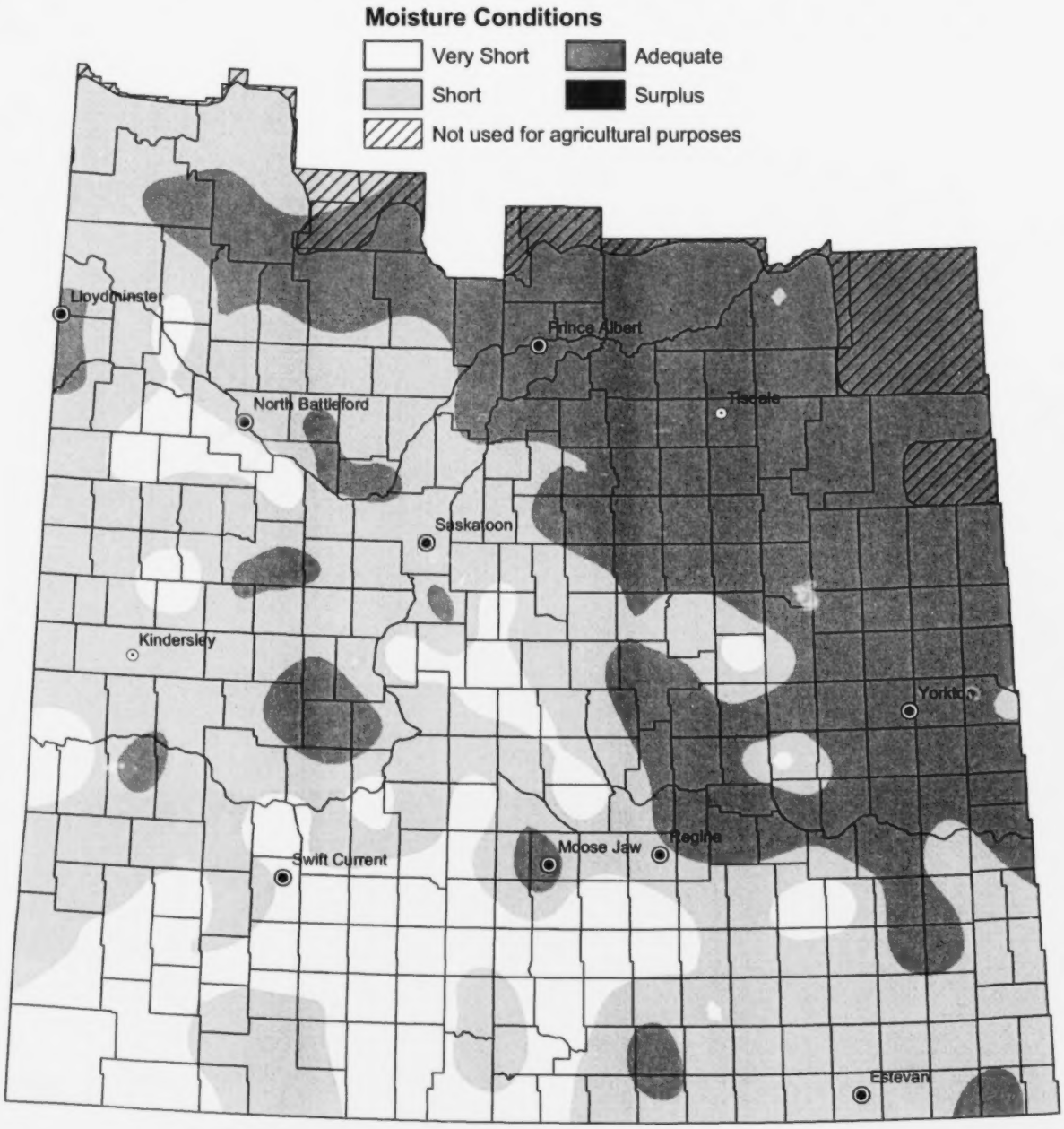
Cumulative Rainfall
From: April 1, 2007
To: July 28, 2007



Crop Land Topsoil Moisture Conditions
July 29, 2007



Crop Land Topsoil Moisture Conditions
July 29, 2007



Crop Districts
and
Rural Municipalities